Appl. No.: 10/626,454
Amdt. dated: June 15, 2006
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2189

PATENT

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (currently amended) A system for storing data, comprising:

a first storage area to store data;

a second storage area to store data;

a first storage control unit configured to control the first storage area; and

a second storage control unit configured to control the second storage area;

wherein, in response to a first write request issued to write data in the first storage area, the first storage control unit is configured to write data associated with the first write request to the first storage area and to transfer the first write request to the second storage control unit, the second storage control unit being configured to write the data associated with the first write request to the second storage area; and

wherein, in response to a second write request issued to write data in the second storage area, the second storage control unit is configured to transfer the second write request to the first storage control unit <u>without writing data associated with the second write request to the second storage area prior to transferring the second write request to the first storage control unit</u>.

2.   (original) The system according to claim 1 wherein, in response to the second write request issued to write data in the second storage area, the second storage control unit is configured to transfer the second write request to the first storage control unit prior to writing data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

3.   (original) The system according to claim 1 wherein the first storage control unit is configured, in response to the transferred second write request from the second storage control unit, to write data associated with the second write request to the first storage area and to transfer the second write request to the second storage control unit.

Appl. No.: 10/626,454
Amdt. dated: June 15, 2006
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2189

PATENT

4.   (original) The system according to claim 3 wherein the second storage control unit is configured, in response to the second write request transferred from the first storage control unit, to write the data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

5.   (original) In a group of storage systems including a first storage system configured to process requests from a first host system and a second storage system configured to process requests from a second host system and to control a second storage area, the first storage system comprising:

    a first storage area to store data; and

    a first storage control unit configured to control the first storage area;

    wherein the first storage control unit is configured, in response to a first write request issued to write data in the first storage area from the first host system, to write data associated with the first write request to the first storage area; and

    wherein the first storage control unit is configured, in response to a second write request issued to write data in the second storage area by the second host system, to receive the second write request prior to writing data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

6.   (original) The first storage system according to claim 5 wherein the first storage control unit is configured, in response to the second write request issued to write data in the second storage area by the second host system, to transfer the second write request to the second storage system to write the data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

7.   (original) The first storage system according to claim 5 wherein the first storage control unit is configured, in response to the received second write request, to write data associated with the second write request to the first storage area and to transfer the second write request to the second storage system to write the data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

Appl. No.: 10/626,454
Amdt. dated: June 15, 2006
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2189

PATENT

8.   (original) In a group of storage systems including a first storage system configured to process requests from a first host system and to control a first storage area and a second storage system configured to process requests from a second host system, the second storage system comprising:

a second storage area to store data; and

a second storage control unit configured to control the second storage area;

wherein the second storage control unit is configured, upon receipt from the first storage control unit of a first write request issued to write data in the first storage area from the first host system, to write data associated with the first write request to the second storage area; and

wherein the second storage control unit is configured, in response to a second write request issued to write data in the second storage area from the second host system, to transfer the second write request to the first storage system to write data associated with the second write request to the first storage area prior to writing the data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

9.   (original) The second storage system according to claim 8 wherein the second storage control unit is configured to receive the second write request from the first storage system.

10.   (original) The second storage system according to claim 9 wherein the second storage control unit is configured to write the data associated with the second write request to the second storage area in response to the second write request received from the first storage system.

11.   (original) A method of storing data in storage devices, the method comprising:

in response to a first write request issued to write data in a first storage area, using a first storage control unit to write data associated with the first write request to the first storage area and transferring the first write request to a second storage control unit to write the data associated with the first write request to a second storage area; and

Appl. No.: 10/626,454
Amdt. dated: June 15, 2006
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2189

PATENT

in response to a second write request issued to write data in the second storage area, transferring the second write request from the second storage control unit to the first storage control unit prior to writing data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

12.   (original) The method according to claim 11 wherein, in response to the second write request issued to write data in the second storage area, the second write request is transferred from the second storage control unit to the first storage control unit prior to writing data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

13.   (original) The method according to claim 11 further comprising, in response to the transferred second write request from the second storage control unit to the first storage control unit, using the first storage control unit to write data associated with the second write request to the first storage area and to transfer the second write request to the second storage control unit.

14.   (original) The method according to claim 13 further comprising, in response to the second write request transferred from the first storage control unit, using the second storage control unit to write the data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

15.   (original) A method of storing data, the method comprising:
in response to a first write request issued to write data in a first storage area from a first host system, writing data associated with the first write request to the first storage area and transferring the first write request to a second storage control unit to write the data associated with the first write request to a second storage area; and
in response to a second write request issued to write data in the second storage area by a second host system, receiving the second write request to write data associated with the second write request to the first storage area prior to writing the data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

16.   (original) The method according to claim 15 further comprising, in response to the received second write request, writing data associated with the second write

Appl. No.: 10/626,454
Amdt. dated: June 15, 2006
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2189

PATENT

request to the first storage area and transferring the second write request to the second storage control unit to write the data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

17.   (original) A method of storing data, the method comprising:

upon receipt from a first storage control unit of a first write request issued to write data in a first storage area from a first host system, writing data associated with the first write request to a second storage area; and

in response to a second write request issued to write data in the second storage area from a second host system, transferring the second write request to the first storage control unit to write data associated with the second write request to the first storage area prior to writing the data associated with the second write request to the second storage area.

18.   (original) The method according to claim 17 further comprising receiving the second write request from the first storage control unit.

19.   (original) The method according to claim 18 further comprising writing the data associated with the second write request to the second storage area in response to the second write request received from the first storage control unit.

20.-54.   (canceled)